

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 16957 231803Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00  
USIE-00 L-03 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01  
OIC-02 PA-01 PRS-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10 ITC-01  
/104 W

-----094389 231808Z /53

O 231738Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3275

INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 16957

USEEC

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: TEXTILES: EC BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND  
US-EC-JAPAN CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 16843; (B) STATE 280077

1. BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS- EC TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR TRAN  
VAN THINH TOLD MISSION OFFICER NOVEMBER 23 THAT  
NEGOTIATIONS WITH HONG KONG, WHICH RESUMED NOVEMBER 21,  
ARE ON A GOOD TRACK AND SHOULD LEAD TO AN AGREEMENT  
SHORTLY. TRAN ALSO INDICATED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH  
KOREA ARE NEARLY COMPLETED AND THAT AN AGREEMENT WILL  
BE SIGNED IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. HE STRESSED THAT EC  
INTENDS TO LIMIT CUTBACKS IN TEXTILE IMPORTS TO THESE  
TWO COUNTRIES. FOR THEM, CUTBACKS IN SENSITIVE  
CATEGORIES WILL BE COMPENSATED BY INCREASES IN OTHER  
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CATEGORIES. TRAN STATED THAT HE NO LONGER INTENDS TO  
REACH FULL AGREEMENT WITH FOUR COUNTRIES, BRAZIL,  
PAKISTAN, INDIA AND EGYPT, BY NOVEMBER 30 DEADLINE.  
INSTEAD HE WILL REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH EACH OF  
THOSE BASED ON OFFERS FOR COTTON YARN AND CLOTH WHICH  
GO BEYOND PRESENT MANDATE GIVEN TO THE COMMISSION BY  
EC COUNCIL. BECAUSE MEMBER STATES, NOTABLY UK, REMAIN

ADAMANT THAT COMMISSION NOT EXCEED ITS MANDATE (SEE REFTEL A), TRAN WILL NEED TO OBTAIN MEMBER STATE APPROVAL FOR HIS OFFERS TO THOSE COUNTRIES AT DECEMBER COUNCIL. TRAN MADE IT CLEAR THAT DEPARTURES FROM MANDATE FOR COTTON CLOTH AND YARN ARE NOT INSIGNIFICANT AND WILL YIELD GROWTH IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 5 PERCENT.

2. TRAN THEN TURNED TO THE DECEMBER 5-6 TEXTILE COMMITTEE MEETING INDICATING THAT HE HOPES THE U.S. WILL TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THAT MEETING, PARTICULARLY BY APPLYING PRESSURE ON HIM TO BE REASONABLE. TRAN'S OBJECTIVE IS TO BE ABLE TO TELL THE COUNCIL THAT HE CAME UNDER STRONG PRESSURE AT TEXTILE COMMITTEE FROM ALL SIDES, INCLUDING THE U.S., TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING WITH LDCS AND THAT FOR THIS REASON COUNCIL, INCLUDING UK MUST AUTHORIZE EXCEEDING MANDATE. HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DISCUSSING HANDLING OF TEXTILE COMMITTEE FURTHER WITH U.S. NEGOTIATORS SUGGESTING THAT U.S. PRESSURE NEEDS TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO BE CONVINCING BUT NOT SO STRONG AS TO LEAD MEMBER STATES, AGAIN PARTICULARLY THE UK AND PERHAPS ITALY, TO INSIST ON AUTONOMOUS MEASURES.

3. TRILATERAL AND BILATERAL MEETINGS - JAPANESE MISSION HERE TELL US THAT DR. SAKAI WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND A TRILATERAL DECEMBER 3-4 AND HAS SUGGESTED CONFIDENTIAL

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A TRILATERAL MEETING AFTER THE TEXTILE COMMITTEE. TRAN STATES THAT HE IS CONTINUING TO HOLD OUT FOR DECEMBER 3-4, OR AT LEAST DECEMBER 4 WITH JAPANESE. HE SUGGESTS THAT A US-EC BILATERAL TAKE PLACE EITHER ON DECEMBER 3 OR 4 AS SCHEDULING PERMITS. HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MEET WITH US TEAM ON DECEMBER 2 (REFTEL B) BECAUSE OF PRIOR COMMITMENT. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, US, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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